

Into the Wilderness - Part 3

When it was almost fully dark, he figured it was time to find a place to sleep. He was tempted again to retreat to Baker and find a motel with a bed and a shower. The amenities of home were a tempting distraction, but this wasn't about his comfort as much as his peace of mind. He found a spot among the rocks and brush and made the best of it. He knew that a fire would be a welcome addition because it was already getting chilly. The high desert can be over 100 degrees during the day and go down to the 40's or below at night. Jaysee dreamed of the stories his dad had told him about riding in the first half of the twentieth century. Those early days of the motoring age were spent on roadways and trails without benefit of pavement, and that last hour before dark had been every bit as adventurous as the stories he had grown up on. Riding a street bike on a dirt road is not as easy as one might think, especially in fading light. When he first headed down that gravel road just off the freeway, Jaysee was tempted to give it up. He had not been prepared for the sand-filled ruts and the washboard effects. It was an area much more suited to dirt bikes and scramblers than classic old Harleys. But the old-timers knew how to ride on dirt and sand, with and without ruts, and Jaysee figured he could do it too. Obviously he would have to either walk or learn to ride in a style which was totally foreign to him, and that would be only the beginning of the challenge.

The next few days would surely be different, and he hoped that much could be established in the quest for his mission in life. He was convinced that he had been led out to this wilderness for an important reason and he was anxious to get on with it. He would have to remember to shake his boots out before putting them on in the morning. There were creepy-crawlies all over out here, and some of them loved the sanctity of dark damp leather in the early morn. What little wood he could round up made for a hot, fast burning fire, but he didn't have anything to cook anyway and only wanted to take the chill off the landscape before rolling into his sleeping bag. You never want to make camp in a gully or a low spot because it might rain twenty miles away, up that ravine, and run a flash flood right on top of you. So Jaysee picked a piece of high ground backed up to huge boulder. There was some soft sand for him to lie down on, but the ground was firm enough that the bike wouldn't tip over and sink out of sight. The feeble fire would have to go out soon so that it didn't attract all sorts of flying and crawling critters to the campsite. He had seen literally hundreds of bugs attracted to the overhead yard lights in the Southwest, making for a very uncomfortable evening outdoors.

Jaysee knew that the business he was about would not be done in a short time. These important things take time, especially when there is bound to be opposition. He knew that his enemies were well entrenched and very powerful. They were also ruthless and just downright evil. He hoped his enemy would accept the subtle challenge he had



communicated and that they could have it out here in the desert, where his friends would be out of dangerous territory. He knew that many historical spiritual battles were fought in the deserts of the earth, and that even the final battle of battles would be decided on sandy soil. Even now he must be preparing for the inevitable showdown. If he was going to begin and lead the greatest MC in the world, he would have to win this wilderness war however it was brought to him. Before he rolled into his sleeping bag, Jaysee knelt

against that big rock and prayed - he needed more than he had right now, from Someone bigger than himself.

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee; my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is." Psalm 63:1

True strength for life's battles is in realizing that there is One Who is stronger than I am, Who will come to my aid when I call upon Him. He seeks me out until I am ready to turn to Him in faith, trusting His grace even for the war for my life.

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